

*Mr. Dykes*

Chief, D/A/RR

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Transmittal of CIA Requirements for Basic Urban Studies on the USSR.

1. The attached requirements outline CIA interests for consideration in the determination of capabilities, programming and scheduling of production of Supplement IV, NIS.

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2. In our examination of the entire urban research activities in the IAC structure the only effort that even approaches fulfillment of these requirements is the production of Target Complex Studies by the Air Research Division, Library of Congress, under contract to AFON. Generally the studies are inadequate because chart coverage is at too small a scale—1:25,000, and the subject matter either lacks sufficient details or totally omits information on peoples, streets and numbering systems, topographic features, transit systems, utilities, cultural features and administrative control installations. For those studies produced and covering the above topics, the focus and degree of detailed treatment differs from that required by CIA.

3. For your information, the most critical and basic item in the CIA requirement is the base town plan. In presenting this overall problem to the NIS committee one of the knottiest problems to be considered will be the production of town plans. The responsibility for town plan production in the Government basically rests with the Army Map Service whose map production priorities are determined by the Map and Photo Branch, G-2, Department of the Army. Our discussions with the Chief, Col. Hall, revealed a fundamental discordance between the priority needs of the ground force operational components of the Defense structure on the one hand, and those of the intelligence and air operations components on the other. The former priority needs dominate the G-2 scheduling of mapping production in the Army Map Service resulting in a concentrated effort on areas peripheral to the USSR. The completion of a town plan of Moscow, the first of the Soviet series, is not even scheduled at the present time and plans are just being developed to provide for its production in the 1954 budget, with the result that the completion would not occur until late in calendar year 1954.

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Enclosure.

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